Achievements in Tapping Hydro Power Potential during 8th Plan

1071. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the achievements made in Eighth Five Year Plan in tapping the country's hydro power potential;

(b) the projection made for generating hydro power in Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(c) the strategy proposed to be adopted to increase hydro power generation in the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) As against the target of 9282 MW, the capacity addition achieved in hydro sector during the Eighth Five Year Plan was 2427.65 MW. The projections for the 9th Five Year Plan (1997—2002) are yet to be finalised by the Planning Commission.

विद्युत परियोजनाओं के लिए विशेष निधियां

1072. **प्रो॰ राम बख्श सिंह वर्मा ; श्रीमती मालती शर्मा :**

क्या विद्युत मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि देश में बिजली की अत्यधिक मांग को देखते हुए सरकार विद्युत परियोजनाओं के लिए विशेष निधियां आवंटित करने पर विचार कर रही है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो नौवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान विद्युत परियोजनाओं के लिए कितनी धनराशि आवंटित करने का निर्णय लिया है;

(ग) उक्त अवधि के दौरान कितने विद्युत उत्पादन का लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया गया है; और

(घ) उसका वर्षवार ब्यौरा क्या है?

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री और विद्युत मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री योगिन्द्र कुमार भगतराम अलघ) : (क) से (घ) विद्युत क्षेत्र हेतु नौवीं योजना कार्यक्रम को अभी योजना आयोग द्वारा अंतिम रूप नहीं दिया गया है। अतः योजना अवधि के लिए भौतिक तथा वित्तीय लक्ष्यों को सुनिश्चित नहीं किया जा सका है। तथापि, 1997-98 के लिए 1020 करोड़ रुपए के मूल आंवटन की तुलना में सरकार ने निर्माणाधीन परियोजनाओं को शीघ्रता से चालू किए जाने हेतु 1917.5 करोड़ रुपए प्रदान किए हैं। इसमें विद्यमान विद्युत केन्द्रों के नवीनकरण एवं आधुनिकीकरण, लुप्त पारेषण लिंकों के निर्माण तथा राज्य क्षेत्र में उत्पादन परियोजनाओं को तीव्रता से चालू किए जाने के लिए रिगायती ऋण प्रदान किए जाने हेतु ब्याज आर्थिक सहायता के रूप में 200 करोड़ रुपए शामिल हैं। 1997-98 हेतु ऊर्जा उत्पादन का लक्ष्य 429 मिलियम यूनिट निर्धारित किया गया है।

Report of Hanumantha Rao Committee on Tehri Dam

1073. SHRI S.M. KRISHNA : SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hanumantha Rao Committee constituted to look into the safety, environmental and rehabilitation aspects of the controversial Tehri Dam has since presented its report;

(b) if so, what are the sailent features thereof on these three aspects;

(c) whether Government are aware that religious leaders attending the World Hindu conference at Hardwar have warned Governmnt that if construction of Tehri Dam was not stopped they would demolish it with their homes as reported in the Hindustan Times dated the 28th October 1997; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and also on the ongoing fast of environmentalist Shri Sunder Lal Bahuguna?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) The Group of Experts set up to examine the relevant scientific and

technical reports and other relevant information relating to the safety aspect of Tehri Dam has not concluded its deliberations. The report of the Hanumantha Rao Committee set up by the Ministry in Septemebr, 1996 to examine rehabilitation and environmental aspects of Tehri Hydroelevtsic Project has submitted its report to the Government on 11.11. 1997. The major recommendations of the Committee with regard to rehabilitation of the affected population include redefinition of family so as to make all sons and unmarried daughters of fully affected families, who attained the age of 18 years on 19.7.1990 eligible for grant of Rs. 1,50,000 each to major married sons and Rs. 75,000 each to major unmarried sons and major unmarried daughters, in lieu of land; grant of house construction assistance to the urban land owner families, including each major son and major unmarried daughter, linked with the progress of construction and shifting; allotment of one constructed shop on cost to each urban shop owner who was not running the shops, in lieu of shop structure acquired from him and Rs. 40,000/- as grant for each additional shop owned by him; recognition of the right of people, living in villages upstream of Tehri reservoir, over the water from Bhagirathi and Bhilangana rivers and tributaries for drinking and irrigation purposes.

The major recommendations on environmental aspects, inter-alia, include enhancement of treatment of degraded catchment areas of Thehri HE project and involvement of the local communities in the catchment area treatment programme; undertaking an additional study of flora and fauna of the region to assess impact on population and local viability of species; early finalisation of Command Area Development Plan and the Disaster Management Plan, etc. Other recommendations include creation of indirect employment opportunities for the affected population, and strengthening of institutional mechanism for rehabilitation, redressal of grievances, and monitoring of environmental safeguards.

(c) and (d) The Government has not received any request from religious leaders who attended the World Hindu Conference as reported in Hindustan Times dated 29.10.1997 representing against the construction of Tehri Dam.

As regards the fast by Shri Sunderlal Bahuguna demanding stoppage of work of Tehri HE Project pending resolution of the issues concerning the safety of the Dam etc. Government has shown its willingness that all possible steps would be taken to ensure the safety of the Dam, to improve rehabilitation package and implementing adequate ecological safeguards.

Execution of Time Bound Power Sector Reforms

1074. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the World Bank has wirtten to Government for time bound power sector reforms to be executed by the State Electricity Boards particularly regarding electricity pricing, the structure and regulation of the sector ownership, management of the state power utilities and privatisation of distribution etc.;

(b) if so, the details of recent communication addressed to the State Governments particularly Maharashtra by the World Bank recently; and

(c) the details of State-wise review of major reform programmes undertaken by the State Electricity Boards and how far it satisfies the World Bank expectation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) The World Bank has addressed a letter to Government of Maharashtra in response to a request made by the Government of Maharashtra for lifting suspension of loan for Second Mahatashtra Power Project. The bank has indicated that it would lift the